

President's Report 01 June 2019 - 31 May 2020

Please take note that the club year ended on 5 March 2020 due to the pandemic. Activities which we resumed in June/July 2020 will be attributed to the club year 2020/2021 and will figure in next year's report!

Coffee mornings

We started the Club year on 31 August 2019 with a traditional Coffee Morning. The coffee morning was attended by Gabi Cruise, President of FASC (Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs). Gabi gave us a short speech on the plans regarding this association. The coffee mornings are a staple of the ASCL and have become more and more popular. So much so, that on 7 December 2019, 60 (!) members attended.



A big THANK YOU to all the ladies and gentleman who treat us to homemade cakes, cookies, sandwiches, and "Schinken-Gipfeli". The tables were always beautifully decorated and laden with food.



Aperitifs

Each month we enjoyed an aperitif at the Hotel La Palma au Lac, Muralto. We decided to change from Saturday afternoon to Thursday afternoon at 5pm, which turned out to be a good move. In general 25-30 members attended the aperitifs.

Library

Our library is still going strong thanks to all the hard work put in by Pauline Haffter, Jean Weil and Helen Zwahlen. Pauline has since handed over to Jean and Helen. The committee and I would like to thank Pauline, Jean and Helen for keeping our library up to date and in perfect condition!



Lectures



First of all our thanks go to Tony Deyes! Tony certainly has the magical touch when it comes to finding the perfect speakers. In September we had the honour of welcoming Edward T. McMullen, Jr.

Ambassador of the United States of America to Switzerland and Liechtenstein. In October, Professor Boas Erez, Rector of the Università della Svizzera Italiana. In November HM Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein, Jane Owen

joined us. Benjamin Koch, Leader on Tax Controversy, Price Waterhouse Coopers joined us in January 2020. Our last lecture was in February. Thomas B Ide, Independent bottler of Single Malt Whisky!

The lectures were always followed by an aperitif, which was paid by the Club. After the aperitif some members enjoyed a relaxed and informal dinner with the lecturer and the committee.

Walks with Katy



Katy never stops to amaze us when it comes to finding the right walking trails. Caslano in November 2019 and Cugnasco in February 2020.

The walks are always perfectly timed and suitable for most of our club members! The restaurant choices are always spot-on!

Outings with Kurt



Kurt loves organizing the outings. His research is meticulous and we have discovered and enjoyed some "pearls of the Ticino".

Faido and Mendrisio were both fully booked in a matter of hours.

Special Events

Technology by Gonzalo. Our youngest club member Gonzalo Mukherjee gave two interesting courses in September and in November. Both courses were well attended!



Lalique



Special presentation by Irene Offenhammer, Store Manager, Lalique Zurich.

Irene gave an interesting presentation on the World of Lalique. Members who attended received a very generous giveaway which included perfume and body lotions in unique Lalique jars and bottles.

Opening Dinner

We celebrated our opening dinner on 13 September 2019 at the Hotel La Palma au Lac, Muralto. The Anglo-Swiss Club Locarno also celebrated a big Birthday.



85 years!

60 members attended. It was a huge success!

Halloween

Who to say that we do not know how to throw a party! Our first Halloween Party attracted a large number of fabulous witches! And one very special ghost! The decorations were in keeping with Halloween!



Clubroom renovation

Anglo-Swiss Club Locarno
This refurbished clubroom
was made possible through
the generous donations of some
very special people
7 December 2019

In 2019 we received some substantial donations. The generosity of these members allowed us to renovate the clubroom and turn it into a cosy,

welcoming room with plenty of space for our library. We also have a flat screen TV that will enable us to show movies and give presentations.



Fish & Chips

In keeping with a great British tradition we decided that it would be fun to have some Fish & Chips. 35 members attended this special event, which we will repeat!



Christmas Afternoon Tea

Again in keeping with British Tradition we decided to host an Afternoon Tea. It was a wonderful event! And we even had a surprise visit by an incredibly good-looking and young Father Christmas!



Auction - Fundraiser



To all the members who donated generously - THANK YOU! We had so many articles that we very honestly were quite overwhelming. A great big THANK YOU to our Auctioneer Rand and to his assistants, we managed to sell 99% and we collected Fr. 2000. --! Amazing!

We started the New Year 2020 with great intentions and many plans.

Prosecco & Panettone

A tradition we do not want to miss and which again attracted many members. Copious bottles of Prosecco were enjoyed and some great Panettone from specialized award winning bakerys in our region added to the very relaxed and fun event! 57 members attended.



Ceramica al Lago

On 14 January 20 members attended a very interesting presentation at Carola Burckhardt's atelier " Ceramica al Lago" in Minusio,

New Years Lunch at Ristorante Tre Terre, Tegna, 17 January 2020

It is always special to return to the Ristorante Tre Terre in Tegna. The food is excellent as is the service.



Carnevale di Venezia - 1 February 2020

The number of members who attended this very special and colourful event overwhelmed us. The clubroom was decorated and members turned up wearing amazing costumes!



Rovos Rail - Welcome to the longest train journey in Africa

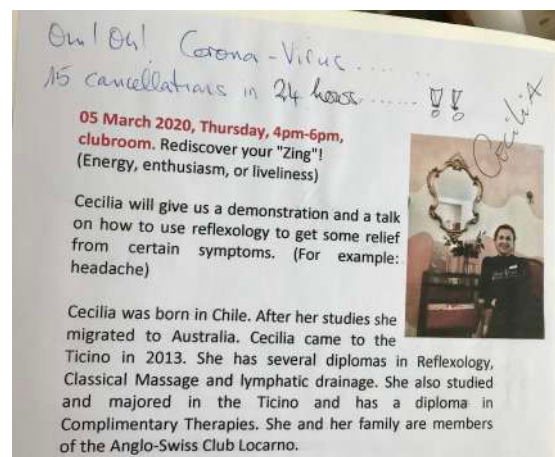
Our club members Michael & Beatrice Sold entertained us - 60 members (!) with a film presentation of the longest train journey in Africa. From Cape Town to Dar-es-Salaam.

Michael & Beatrice personally filmed and experienced this incredible adventure and we thoroughly enjoyed the presentation. We hope we can enjoy more presentations.



Our last event was on 5 March 2020 - Rediscover your "Zing"!

Our lovely club member Cecilia Mukherjee kindly took the time to explain all the benefits of Reflexology. Those who attended thoroughly enjoyed her presentation and we are looking forward to more as soon as we can!



And last but not least our walking group, which started off as "10'000 steps along the lake", is still very active. We probably now walk 50'000 during the week! Unfortunately this activity has also been paused but we will resume as soon as we safely can!



During the last months, since I became President on June 10, 2019, I have realized how very satisfying it is to spread some cheer and joy with our various events. I can promise you all that as soon as I can, I will continue.

I would like to thank the committee members, Alain Morgantini, Paula Merlini, Anne Lipton Katy Meyer, Kurt Amrein and also Walter Isler (who is now a new committee member, but who already did a prodigious amount of work for the Anglo-Swiss Club Locarno and for the Federation of Anglo-Swiss Clubs) for their support at all times!

I also extend my thanks to our auditors Charles Weil and Felix Irniger.

That we were able to host so many wonderful events, sponsor so many aperitifs, renovate the clubroom and, generally speaking, really enhance all our activities was only possible due to some very generous donations. We put the funds to good use and we do think that all members who attended our events were able to benefit from the generosity of our donors! To these donors "THANK YOU FROM MY HEART".

When I received the donations, I was told to give the members "a good time". I think that we achieved our goal!

Our club is thriving and we have been able to acquire new members. For this we are very thankful. We have also had several articles in the local newspapers, which certainly helped. Of course some members have left the club, some

have moved back overseas and some have not been able to come back to Switzerland. We currently have 179 members!

Sad news. Unfortunately two of our dear members, Toni Arquisch and Sigi Scherrer passed away. We have extended our sincerest condolences to their families. Toni and Sigi were always good fun to be with! Sigi Scherrer had also served on the ASCL committee.

Our membership list is perfectly up to date and if you are asking yourself why we have not added the emails, the simple answer is, that the majority of our members did not want their emails disclosed. It is a privacy issue which we must respect. If you need a members email please just phone them and ask.

Our club finances are more than healthy!

I hope you enjoyed reading this report.

Stefanie Bertoneri Amrein
President Anglo-Swiss Club Locarno

Locarno, 14 November 2020